

Congressional Record

United States of America

proceedings and debates of the 112^{th} congress, second session

Vol. 158

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JUNE 18, 2012

No. 92

House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Washington, DC,} \\ \textit{June 18, 2012.} \end{array}$

I hereby appoint the Honorable STEVEN C. LATOURETTE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

John A. Boehner, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Dear God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We ask Your special blessing upon the Members of this people's House. They face difficult decisions in difficult times, with many forces and interests demanding their attention.

In these days, give wisdom to all the Members that they might execute their responsibilities to the benefit of all Americans.

Bless them, O God, and be with them and with us all this day and every day to come. May all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Burgess) $\,$

come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BURGESS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

PRESIDENT OBAMA CREATES MORE CHAOS AND UNCERTAINTY

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, the administration showed it is less concerned with supporting policies that will put millions of unemployed Americans back to work and instead has decided to go in an entirely new direction. Unilateral changes in law that have been done for political expediency put individuals ahead of the 12.5 million people who have been seeking work for the past 3½ years.

Mr. Speaker, the administration has produced an executive order that is a political decision—purely political—and one that will continue to block opportunities for American citizens trying to find employment.

Prosecutorial discretion is what we heard this was. This is not prosecutorial discretion. Prosecutorial discretion means you decide whether or not to prosecute an individual for a crime they may or may not have committed. What this is is new policy, new policy that is being implemented by the administration unilaterally—no respect for the people's House, no respect for the United States Congress, no respect for the legislative branch. Instead, prosecutorial discretion now morphed into, well, we'll provide you a work permit good for 2 years that's renewable for 2 years.

This administration has a history of picking winners and losers. This time

it's got to stop. This Congress needs to stand up to this administration starting today.

CHIEF IGNORER OF THE LAW

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for $1\ \mathrm{minute.}$)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker:

With respect to the notion that I can just suspend deportations through executive order, that's just not the case, because there are laws on the books that Congress has passed.

Mr. Speaker, that was President Obama a year ago. But that was then and this is now.

On Friday, the administration issued an imperial decree, acting to unilaterally ignore portions of the immigration law of the land. Mr. Speaker, the last time I checked, it was Congress who makes law, not the President. And it is the job of the Executive to enforce laws, not ignore the ones he just doesn't like.

The President has no interest in fixing the broken immigration system. Instead, he has decreed this temporary amnesty in hopes of winning votes in November. He doesn't like the constitutional process for law-making because it just gets in his way, so he acts like an emperor instead of a President.

It's time for the former constitutional professor to read the Constitution.

And that's just the way it is.

UNCERTAINTY DESTROYS JOBS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, in Wednesday's Washington Examiner, columnist John Stossel quoted Economist John B. Taylor of the Hoover Institution who stated:

 \Box This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., \Box 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

